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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

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COUNTRY

East Germany

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SUBJECT

The Disappearance of Official Government Stamps and Blocks During the Berlin Uprising

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The East German government has decreed that no orders for the manufacture of official stamps, seals or government stationery were henceforth to be placed with the Zentralverlag, which formerly furnished these articles. During the uprising in East Berlin between 17 and 19 June, records and blocks for letter heads to be used by Ulbricht, Grotewohl, and Dr. Geyer, as well as other blocks required for the manufacture of stamps and seals, plus the duplicate of the embossed stamp of the Minister President had disappeared. The objects mentioned were henceforth to be made by the Deutsche Notenbank (National Bank of Issue) and the Muenze (National Mint). All designs for stamps, seals and letter heads were immediately changed. However, the manufacture of the new stamps meets with great difficulties because the National Mint is not equipped for this type of work.

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